

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP2004/015661

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01M8/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/207162 A1 (REISER CARL A) 6 November 2003 (2003-11-06) paragraphs [0006], [0017]; claim 1; figure 2 -----	1-8,24, 25
X	US 6 294 277 B1 (UENO MASATAKA ET AL) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) abstract column 4, line 46 - line 60 -----	1-3,5,6, 8,24,25
X	US 6 387 556 B1 (FUGLEVAND WILLIAM A ET AL) 14 May 2002 (2002-05-14) abstract; figures 4,19 -----	1-4,25
A	US 2002/028362 A1 (PREDIGER DENNIS ET AL) 7 March 2002 (2002-03-07) abstract paragraph [0035] -----	1-8,24, 25

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

11 May 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

23.07.05

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-8, 24, 25

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-8,24,25

A fuel cell system comprising a voltage detector and a control unit characterized by a control unit capable of varying the value of the load current in accordance with the detected voltage.

2. claims: 9-11, 15-20

A fuel cell system comprising a voltage detector and a control unit characterized by further comprising a stack heating unit and the control unit being capable of varying the heating value of the heating unit in accordance with the detected voltage or by further comprising a unit for circulating a heating medium through the fuel cell stack and the control unit being capable of varying the flow rate or the temperature of the heating medium in accordance with the detected voltage.

3. claims: 12-14, 21-23

A fuel cell system comprising a voltage detector and a control unit characterized by further comprising a reactant gas flow rate control unit and the control unit being capable of varying the flow rate of the reactant gas in accordance with the detected voltage or further comprising a reactant gas pressure control unit and the control unit being capable of varying the pressure of the reactant gas in accordance with the detected voltage.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/015661

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